Seminar on distributed digital control

1086. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI T. CHANDRA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Electronics had organised an international seminar on Distributed Digital Control in New Delhi on September 10, 1986;

(b) if so, what were the main features of the seminar and the issues discussed therein;

(c) whether the question of import of technology was also discussed; if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) what action has been/is being taken by Government in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The seminar was aimed at creating an awareness in the Indian Industry towards the use of new technologies such as Distributed Digital Control (DDC) and the benefits that could be achieved. The seminar was attended by more than 200 senior executives from the Industry, Government Departments, R & D organisations and academic institutions. 19 invited technical papers which high lighted the technological trends, the practical applications through case studies were presented by experts from India and abroad. An exhibition limited to DDC and related equipment was organised in which 10 manufacturers from India and abroad exhibited their products.

Import of technology *per se* was not discussed. A few aspects related to the introduction and implementation of DDC were discussed. On the basis of the recommendations of the seminar, design of DDC for Bhilai Steel Plant has been taken up.

Seizure of Narcotics from an Afghan National

1087. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that narcotics worth Rs. ten crores including 96 kg. of heroin and 170 kg. of charas were seized in New Delhi from an Afghan national with U.N. refugee status on August 30, 1986;

(b) if so, what was the value of the narcotics haul in the international market;

(c) whether this seizure resulted in unearthing of any gang of smugglers of narcotics; and

(d) what was the *modus operandi* of these smugglers as revealed by the investigation made into the said seizure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) 96 Kgs. of heroin and 176 Kgs. of charas were recovered from two Afghan Nationals.

(b) Approximately Rs. 10 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The narcotics were being brought from Afghanistan via Pakistan. The same were being distributed in small quantities to local dealers.

Accidents of the IAF aircraft

1088. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five defence personnel were killed in a

Chetak helicopter crash in the Western sector sometime in mid September, 1986;

(b) whether a Naval aircraft had also crashed into the sea off Goa recently during a routine training sortie; and that its crew is missing;

(c) whether an Airforce officer and a flying cadet was killed following crash of a trainer craft of the IAF in the Southern sector recently;

(d) if so, what is the number of IAF aircraft accidents since the beginning of 1986, till date and how the figures compare with the accidents during the corresponding period in 1985, stating the estimated loss suffered on account of loss of the aircraft and the number of IAF officers killed; and

(e) what measures have been taken by Government to prevent the increasing number of IAF aircraft accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The information regarding the total number of accidents, estimated loss and the number of IAF officers who lost their lives in these accidents is classified and cannot be disclosed in the public interest.

(e) The major causes of air accidents have been identified to be human errors, technical defects and bird strikes.

To reduce accidents due to human error the training scheme for pilots has been revised. Training syllabi, especially with regard to instrument and night flying, have been reviewed, and standards established are being strictly monitored. The assessment and categorisation of pilots is also being reviewed. Selection test are being modified to identify the flying aptitude and mental qualities required for service pilots.

To avoid accidents caused by technical defects due to design or manufacturing deficiencies, consultations are held with the manufacturers, when such causes are established, to introduce modifications in the aircraft. With a view to reducing servicing errors the Wing maintenance organisation has been restructured, and the percentage of untrained technicians has been reduced. Experienced Supervisors have been placed in charge of aircraft servicing and repairs, and teams of technicians have been forced to service particular aircraft Technical Type Training Schools are also being established for particular types of aircraft.

To reduce bird hazard a few teams have been established to destroy birds in the approach funnels to the runways in selected airfields on an experimental basis. Steps have also been taken in some airfields, where bird population is especially high to improve hygienic conditions there in, and pigeon proof buildings to discourage the bird population.

Discussions for licenced production of Soviet designed defence equipment

1089. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an official Indian delegation, led by the Minister of State for Defence had visited Soviet Union in September, 1986 to hold discussions with the Soviet Experts on matters relating to licenced production of Soviet-designed equipment in India; and

(b) if so, what was the precise outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) An official delegation led by Shri Sukh Ram, the then Minister of State for Defence, visited USSR on a goodwill mission from 18 to 25 September, 1986. During the visit, the delegation discussed with the Soviet authorities various issues relating to defence production projects being set up in